

## Message for Americans - November 17, 2011

This warden message alerts U.S. citizens to the potential for large demonstrations throughout Greece on Thursday, November 17. Demonstrations are expected to take place during the afternoon and evening in the center of Athens, in the vicinity of the U.S. Embassy, and in Thessaloniki in the area of the U.S. Consulate General, as well as on and near university campuses. U.S. citizens should avoid these areas after 2:00 PM on November 17.

November 17 is the anniversary date of the 1973 protests against the then-ruling junta. In the past, some demonstrations were violent, and included the destruction of property. Exercise caution and common sense: avoid the areas of demonstrations, and if you find yourself too close to a demonstration, move in the opposite direction and seek shelter. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence. The Embassy recommends that U.S. citizens in the Athens neighborhoods of Kolonaki and Ampelokipi be especially alert for problems in their neighborhoods between 4:00 pm on November 17 and 6:00 am on Nov 18.

Traffic and public transportation in the vicinity of demonstrations are likely to be adversely affected. U.S. citizens seeking Consular services on November 17 should be aware that the Embassy in Athens and the Consulate General in Thessaloniki will close at 2 pm or earlier, should circumstances warrant.

U.S. citizens in Greece should monitor the local news for the latest information. Stay up to date by bookmarking the demonstrations page of the [Embassy website](#) as well as the [Bureau of Consular Affairs website](#), which contains the current [Travel Warnings](#), [Travel Alerts](#), and the [Worldwide Caution](#). You can follow the Department of State on [Twitter](#), and the Bureau of Consular Affairs and the Athens Consular Section on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free within the U.S. and Canada, or a regular toll line, 1-202-501-4444, from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

U.S. citizens living or traveling abroad are encouraged to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate through the State Department's [travel registration website](#).

If you don't have access to the Internet, you may also contact the U.S. Embassy in Athens or Consulate General in Thessaloniki at the numbers below. Please pass this information on to other U.S. citizens.

U.S. Embassy in Athens  
91 Queen Sophias Avenue  
Tel: 210-720-2951

U.S. Consular General in Thessaloniki  
43 Tsimiski Street  
Tel: 2310-242905